

REMARKS

Specification

The specification was amended to insert a cross reference paragraph to indicate a priority under 35 U.S.C. § 109(a).

Claims

Claim(s) 1-19 are pending in this application. Claims 3, 4, 7, 8, 13 and 16-19 have been amended to remove multiple dependent claims.

Drawings

Eleven (11) replacement sheets of the formal drawings with English texts are submitted herewith.

Conclusion

Entry of the above amendments is earnestly solicited. An early and favorable first action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Mark J. Nuell (Reg. No. 36,623) at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37.C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.14; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: July 24, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By Mark J. Nuell
Mark J. Nuell
Registration No.: 36,623
BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP
8110 Gatehouse Road
Suite 100 East
P.O. Box 747
Falls Church, Virginia 22040-0747
(703) 205-8000
Attorney for Applicant